REPORT ON RACE RELATIONS IN COLLEGE SOCIAL LIFE

I. Observations

1. Black and Hispanic students in general seem comfortable at College-wide social functions, including fraternity parties.
2. White students are generally somewhat uncomfortable at BSU sponsored parties and events. Few white students attend these functions, and it is generally the same ones who do. Lately, more white students have been attending BSU parties, probably because of a better effort in advertising.
3. Relatively few black and Hispanic students attend Winter Carnival events, it has been noted. This is probably because the events of the weekend are mostly based on the lifestyle of New England, which is alien to most black and Hispanic students.
4. All of the fraternities at the College are completely open to students of all races, that is, none of them are discriminatory. Despite this, few minority students are members of fraternities, although several students have expressed some interest in joining certain fraternities.

II. Recommendations

1. The BSU should continue its efforts, through heavy advertising, to attract white students to its parties and events. This increased advertising seems to have payed off recently, and it seems that gradually more white students are going to BSU events.
2. Minority students should be encouraged to attend Winter Carnival events and to get involved in them. More importantly, perhaps alternative events could be developed at which black and Hispanic students might feel more at home.
3. Minority students who are interested in joining fraternities and fraternities which are interested in having these students join them must break down a communications barrier. Fraternities are always looking for new members, especially among freshmen. All it takes is expressing a modicum of interest in a fraternity, and its members will, if only for the sake of their house, encourage one to join it.